

a determiner coupled to receive indications of the communication signal, once transmitted upon the communication channel and received at the receiving station, the determiner for determining, at least when fading exhibited by the communication channel upon which the communication signal is sent causes fading of the communication signal beyond a selected threshold; and

5 a power controller coupled to receive indications of determinations made by said determiner, said power controller for selectively providing power control change indications of levels responsive to determinations made by said determiner to the sending station, the power control change indications forming requests requesting an increase, or decrease, in power levels 10 of the communication signal when subsequently sent upon the communication channel, the power control change indications of levels that request the power levels of the communication signal, subsequently to be sent, not to be increased if the determiner determines the fading of the communication signal to be beyond the selected threshold.

15 3. (Amended) The power control apparatus of claim 1 wherein said determiner is further for determining, subsequent to determining when the fading exhibited by the communication channel is beyond the selected threshold, when the fading exhibited by the communication channel returns to be within the selected threshold, said determiner for determining the fading to be within the selected threshold responsive to the value of a signal-to-noise ratio returning to be greater than a selected value.

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4. (Amended) The power control apparatus of claim 3 wherein said power controller further provides power control change indications to the sending station to request an increase in power levels of the communication signal when the fading exhibited by the communication channel returns to be within the selected threshold.

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10. (Amended) The power control apparatus of claim 1 wherein said power controller further provides at least one power control change indication to the sending station to request a decrease in the power levels of the communication signal if the determiner determines the fading of the communication signal if the determiner determines the fading of the communication signal to be beyond the selected threshold.

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11. (Amended) The power control apparatus of claim 10 wherein said power controller provides a selected plurality of power control change indications to the sending station to request the decrease in the power levels of the communication signal by a selected magnitude of power level decrease.

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16. (Amended) A closed-loop power control method for selectively controlling power levels of a communication signal sent by a sending station upon a communication channel to a receiving station, the communication channel susceptible to fading, said method comprising: determining, responsive to indications of the communication signal once transmitted upon the communication channel and received at the receiving station, at least when fading

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exhibited by the communication channel upon which the communication signal is sent causes fading of the communication signal beyond a selected threshold; and

selectively providing power control change indications to the sending station responsive to determinations made during said operation of determining, the power control indications of levels forming requests requesting an increase, or decrease, in power levels of the communication signal when subsequently sent upon the communication channel, the power control change indications of levels that request the power levels of the communication signal, subsequently to be sent, not to be increased if the fading of the communication signal determined during said operation of determining is determined to be beyond the selected threshold.

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17. (Amended) The method of Claim 16 wherein the power control change indications, send during said operation of selectively providing power control change indications to the sending station, are of levels to cause a decrease in the power levels of the communication signal if the fading is determined to be beyond the selected threshold.

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REMARKS

In the above-mentioned Office Action, all of the pending claims, claims 1-19, were rejected. Claims 1-4, 10-12, and 16-18 were rejected under Section 102(e) over Tsuda. Claims 5-7 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of Tsuda and Daves. Claims 8-9 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of Tsuda and Dohi. And, claims 13-15 and 19 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of Tsuda and Hakkinen.